STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS STATE OF ILLINOIS

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Daniel W. White July 21, 2006

Dear Political Committee:

This letter is to make you aware of recent legislative and rule changes which may affect your committee. A brief summary of the changes follows. This summary is intended only as an overview of the changes and is not to be used as a legal interpretation. Please refer to the Campaign Financing Act (available for download from our website, www.elections.il.gov) for exact language.

SB 1445, signed into law July 3, 2006 as Public Act 94-1000, clarified the section of the Campaign Financing Act which addresses disclosures on political communications, specifically 10 ILCS 5/9-9.5. Any political committee making an expenditure for any political communication directed at voters, which mentions the name of a candidate in the next election without that candidate's permission, AND, which advocates for or against a public policy position, shall be identified by name within that communication. Random sampling or other scientific survey methods to gauge public opinion are not subject to this provision.

In addition, a political committee may not pay for unsolicited phone calls to residential telephone customers in Illinois using any method to block or circumvent the customer's use of a caller id service.

Section 100.70(e) of the Board's Rules and Regulations was amended to raise the threshold amount for the filing of a pre-election report to 'more than \$500'. If a committee files a Statement of Nonparticipation and then expends or has expended more than \$500 in aggregate to support or oppose candidates and/or questions of public policy in the next election, it must file a pre-election report within five days, or if this threshold is crossed within five days of the election, the pre-election report must be filed within twenty-four hours. Exceeding this threshold amount also triggers the Schedule A-1 filing requirement for each contribution exceeding \$500, beginning with the date the threshold is crossed.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these legislative and rule changes, you may contact me or any member of my staff at 217-782-4141. Thank you.

Respectfully,

rt T. Borgsmøler, Director Division of Campaign Disclosure